

Crowds in Gt St Mary's Passage at death King George V, 1936

173.05

c.44.6: Cambridge GREAT ST MARY'S PASSAGE Scrapbook

1898 10 18

The photographer who is also an artist has a great advantage over the photographer who is merely a mechanic. One may realise this very clearly by paying a visit to the studio at St Mary's Passage, Cambridge, of Mr Clement A. Shaw. His first love was painting but in his portrait work he found the advantage of being able to take a photograph of the subject, in that tedious sittings could often be curtailed. His studios are covered with specimens of his work. There are photographs in all processes - opals, miniatures, pastels and oil paintings. There are several pictures painted on an enlarged scale from photographs which are very meritorious indeed

1900

1903 07 07

Cambridge is becoming an uncongenial place for the purveyor of pirated music. The latest of several seizures took place at the instigation of Messrs Bedwell, music dealers of St Mary's Passage. A member of the firm, with the assistance of police, examined a stock of music being sold by several hawkers on Market Hill. About 80 copies of well-known songs and some of Sousa's marches were found among the stock being sold cheaper than authorised charges for music produced by the holders of the copyright. They were promptly confiscated and taken to the police station. The hawkers were agents of a huge and craftily constituted organisation that exists for the distribution over the country of music of this description.

1905 09 13

Sir – I believe the earliest Cambridge photographer was George Proctor, who lived in New Square until he died about 1850. About the same time Sarony, a celebrated photographer, was allowed to carry on his business in a caravan on Parker's Piece. There were others including Nichols who had a flourishing business; he moved from Slaughter House Lane to St Mary's Passage and later his son to Post Office Terrace. He took my own portrait in 1854 and it is as good today as it was then – 'Three-score and twelve' 05 09 13a

1930

1935 12 17

Electricity is the modern housewife's Father Christmas, bringing her so many labour-saving and home-brightening devices and Messrs Bailey, Grundy and Barrett of St Mary's Passage are specialists. Lamp standards, wireless sets and coffee percolators are a few gift suggestions. Harassed husbands and flurried fiancés will find solutions to all their gift problems at Messrs Eaden Lilley's which is packed full of things dear to the feminine heart such as evening gowns, furs and lingerie. The bargain basement has good quality stuff at reasonable prices. 35 12 17a

1936 03 12

Albany Café in St Mary's Passage – painting – 36 03 12b

1936 03 21b

Albany coffee shop St Mary's Passage notes; frontage between St Mary's Passage and St Edward's Passage sold - 36 03 21b

1940

1940 03 14

'Modern Hairdressing' – new ladies hair saloon and Stanwell Shoe Company, St Mary's Passage – 40 03 14a

1945 05 08

VE celebrations, Market Square, crowd of several thousand, waste paper dump in St Mary's Passage set on fire, cars and stalls damaged, flag on top fountain, climb Guildhall clock – 45 05 08, 45 05 10

1950

1950 06 03

Film company International Realistic has been in Cambridge filming part of a feature film with many well-known local scenes as backgrounds. The film will probably be called "The scarlet thread", and is an exciting "cops and robbers" starring Laurence Harvey and Kathleen Byron. Market Hill is included with a dash to Gt St Mary's Passage and a realistic rugger tackle by the fountain. The exposed film was rushed each day to London for processing and back again next day in time for screening at the Victoria Cinema after the usual performances.

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1961 12 01

A bold scheme to transform Cambridge Market Hill into the 'finest piazza in Europe' would involve banning traffic in King's Parade, demolition of a few buildings on the corner of St Mary's Passage and the complete clearance of the Market Place. The screen in front of King's college would be removed and the Senate House and Law Department buildings linked together to form one magnificent spacious vista, says architect G.M. Vickers 61 12 01b

1970

1974 07 18

Seven generation of Barretts have been supplying the citizens of Cambridge with pottery and glass since the C18. This week the family business is virtually "coming home to roost" in opening up new premises in Gt St Mary's Passage – only a stone's throw from the spot where Simon Barrett opened up his first shop nearly 200 years ago. The long-established premises in St Andrew's Street will still remain in business.

1980

1984 02 25

Jane Barrett, the joint managing director of the Cambridge china and glass specialists, has become the first woman in the world to have a Royal Doulton crinoline lady named after her. 'Jane', a portrait of an Edwardian lady holding a parasol, has been created exclusively to celebrate Barretts bi-centenary this year and will only be sold at their shop in St Mary's Passage. 82 05 25 & a

1990 03 13

University Audio founder Gruffydd Reece started University Cameras in St Mary's Passage after leaving the RAF in 1945. The business expanded and he opened Fencolour Laboratories in Newmarket Road, one of the first to offer colour developing and printing for amateurs. He was later joined by his brother Hugh and cousin Bryan Hyam who started University Audio in Peas Hill – 90 03 13